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(3 Bolton St. W.)

15 September,

Dover: Aug. 11th

Dear Fanny Barrett:

Your letter of the 4th
was so liberal in
spirit that I am al-
most ashamed to say
I still find your proposal
impracticable.

3/ of going back, as it were,
on the word, by altering
& making over the ^{story} ~~plot~~
as then set forth. any
any material changes
would seem, to me,
of palodizing, as giving
away, one's own production.
A writer must see such
a matter as this with
his own eyes - if he is

2/
I simply don't, & can't,
en - play in the "fortuit"
& find my own conviction
circumstantial that
such a play, at least, as
should
desire to write, cannot
come out of it. There
are very fixed limits
in regard to what I should
be willing to do in the way

to see it at all, & I am
afraid I should not be
able to see it with you
even if we were to talk
the matter over, great
as are the inducements
which you offer to such
an effort. I thank you
very kindly for the facilities
you hold out for my coming
over to look into the

7/ What it would be, but
I should probably be pre-
pared to write you no
play, to take or to leave,
as you should like it
or not, on the chance
that if you should like
it, it would open the
door to my acquiring
a goodish sum of money.
This would leave us

by throwing myself into
your vision. I am afraid
I can console myself &
you (if ~~you~~ ^{you} and com-
pensation) ^{only} by saying, is a gene-
ral way, but I should
be glad to try something
next year. But it won't
it, it couldn't, be an
"Portrait"? - I am not
as yet prepared to say

both our liberty, & our
stake ^{for me,} would be worthless
while. I will devote my-
self meanwhile to thinking
out a big situation, ^{with}
national if possible; &
you don't wear your
ear it will be ^{because} ~~the~~ I haven't
been able to think of one
big enough. Perhaps not
yet you will come this
way? Ever faithfully
Yours, Mary Jones

being. Even if my state
of mind (as to the particu-
lar suggestion) were left
sceptical, I should not
be able to cross the water
this year. Nor should
I be able to get at the
production of a play
before January 1st. You
see to what extent cir-
cumstances are against